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Remarks

Claims 1-5 and 21-71 are pending in the subject application. Applicants previously elected to prosecute the invention of the Group VII, claims 1-5, 21-22 and 24-26 drawn to a chemical compound of the formula wherein X, Y, and Z together make a pyrrolidine or pyrroline ring, which is fused with a cyclopropyline ring in class 548, subclass 452+ except where the R groups contain a sugar/sugar residue, nucleoside, nucleoside monophosphate, nucleoside diphosphate or nucleoside triphosphate. Applicants further elected, for purposes of examination, the species wherein X=C; Y=N; Z=C; $R_1=R_{2}=R_{3}=R_{4}=R_{5}=R_{6}=R_{7}=H$ and $R_8=CH_2OH$.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for careful examination of the claims and for the opportunity to file this Amendment. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1, 33 and 54 and added new claims 72-74. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the subject specification and in the claims as originally filed. Specifically, support for the new and amended claims may be found in paragraphs [0011] and [0012]. Entry and consideration of the amendments presented herein is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 1-5 and 21-74 are currently before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment will require no further search or examination on the part of the Examiner and does not constitute new matter.

It should be understood that the amendments presented herein have been made <u>solely</u> to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion and should not be construed as an indication of Applicants' agreement with or acquiescence in the Examiner's position. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the invention(s) disclosed in the subject application, including any subject matter canceled or not pursued during prosecution of the subject application, in a related application.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, Applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

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Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

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